

Message Text

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3407

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-80

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING JUNE 14, 1974: AGENDA ITEM V,
STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROGROUP

OTTAWA HOLD FOR SECSTATE PARTY AT NATOMIN

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REMARKS MADE BY EUROGROUP CHAIRMAN
(FOSTERVOLL, NORWAY) TO DPC MINISTERS ON JUNE 14. BEGIN TEXT.

1. MR SECRETARY-GENERAL, GENTLEMEN, THE EUROGROUP MET IN
BRUSSELS YESTERDAY AND IT IS MY DUTY, AS THIS YEAR'S CHAIRMAN, TO
INFORM THIS COMMITTEE ABOUT OUR DISCUSSION.

2. AS YOU WILL HAVE NO DOUBT SEEN THE COMMUNIQUE THAT WAS ISSUED
YESTERDAY EVENING I WILL NOT REPEAT IN DETAIL THE ITEMS WHICH WERE
MENTIONED THERE. I WOULD, HOWEVER, LIKE TO ENLARGE A LITTLE ON
ONE OR TWO OF THE COMMUNIQUE ITEMS AND TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT ONE
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OR TWO TOPICS WHICH WE DISCUSSED BUT WHICH WE DID NOT MENTION IN
OUR COMMUNIQUE.

3. HE HAD A LONG DUSCUSSION ABOUT VARIOUS ASPECTS OF EQUIPMENT

COLLABORATION, SOME OF IT ENCOURAGING, SOME OF IT LESS SO. ONE OF THE MORE ENCOURAGING ELEMENTS WAS A REPORT BY OUR SUBGROUP ON LONG TERM PLANNING--EUROLONGTERM--THAT IT ANTICIPATED THAT IT WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL IN PRODUCING A NUMBER OF AGREED COMMON TACTICAL CONCEPTS AND THAT THE FIRST OF THESE WOULD, IF ALL WENT WELL, BE SUBMITTED FOR FORMAL ENDORSEMENT BY THE END OF THE YEAR. WE WERE ANXIOUS TO MAKE SURE THAT CONCEPTS, WHEN AGREED, SHOULD LEAD TO JOINT PROJECTS. IT HAS, AFTER ALL, BEEN SAID OFTEN ENOUGH THAT THE ABSENCE OF COMMON CONCEPTS IS A MAJOR BARRIER TO SUCH PROJECTS. WE HAVE THEREFORE ASKED EUROGLONGTERM TO CONSULT THE NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS TO MAKE SURE THAT ONCE A CONCEPT IS AGREED, THE DEVELOPMENT OF EQUIPMENT BASED ON THAT CONCEPT IS MADE POSSIBLE.

4. ANOTHER ASPECT WHICH WE DISCUSSED WAS THE REPLACEMENT OF THE F-104'S. THE POSITION HERE IS THAT AT THEIR MEETING ON 2ND MAY THE MINISTERS OF DEFENCE OF BELGIUM, DENMARK, THE NETHERLANDS AND NORWAY AGREED THAT A COMMON SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF REPLACING OBSOLESCEMENT F-104'S AND OTHER AIRCRAFT IN THEIR AIRFORCES IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE. ALL PREPARATORY WORK TO FACILITATE THIS MUST BE COMPLETED IN TIME TO MAKE POSSIBLE A DECISION ON A JOINT ACQUISITION PROGRAMME IN THE COURSE OF 1974. WITHIN THE INDICATED TIME-FRAME NO COUNTRY WILL TAKE STEPS THAT WOULD JEOPARDIZE A JOINT SOLUTION BEFORE ALL POSSIBILITIES TO THIS END HAVE BEEN EXPLORED. THE INTEREST OF CANADA IN THIS MATTER WAS NOTED.

5. ON 21 MAY THIS YEAR I CALLED A MEETING IN OSLO OF SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM EUROGROUP CAPITALS TO DISCUSS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, FUTURE EUROGROUP ACTIVITIES. TWO OF THE TOPICS DISCUSSED IN OSLO CONCERN EQUIPMENT COLLABORATION AND BOTH WERE DISCUSSED BY MINISTERS YESTERDAY. THESE WERE:

- A. INTEGRATED AIR DEFENCE
- B. THE ROLE OF EUROPEAN INDUSTRY IN NATO ARMS PROCUREMENT.

6. ON THE FIRST, WHICH IS CONCERNED, IN ESSENCE, WITH THE NEXT GENERATION SURFACE TO AIR MISSILE--THAT IS THE REPLACEMENT FOR NIKE, HAWK AND SIMILAR WEAPONS, WHICH WILL BE NEEDED SOMETIME IN CONFIDENTIAL

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THE EIGHTIES--WE AGREED THAT THERE WAS A NEED TO START DISCUSSING THE PROBLEM NOW WITH A VIEW TO SEEKING A COMMON SOLUTION. WE ASKED OUR NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS TO PROVIDE US WITH AN OUTLINE OF ACTION AND A CLEAR STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEMS FOR OUR NEXT MEETING.

7. ON THE SECOND, THE ROLE OF EUROPEAN INDUSTRY, WE HAD A VERY GOOD DISCUSSION COVERING BOTH RELATIONS BETWEEN EUROPEANS AND BETWEEN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA. WE CONCLUDED THAT THERE IS A CLEAR NEED TO MAINTAIN A HIGHLY DEVELOPED EUROPEAN DEFENCE INDUSTRY TO ENABLE TO EUROPEANS TO CONTINUE TO MAKE A FULL CONTRIBUTION TO ALLIANCE DEFENCE. WE ALL FELT MOST STRONGLY, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WAS NOT, AND MUST NOT BE, A RECIPE FOR EUROPE BUYING

ONLY EUROPEAN EQUIPMENT AND NORTH AMERICA BUYING ONLY FROM NORTH AMERICA. WHAT WE FELT WAS NEEDED IN OUR SEARCH FOR INCREASED COLLABORATION, INCREASED STANDARDISATION AND BETTER USE OF RESOURCES, WAS A TWO WAY PROCESS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC WHEREBY EACH OF US WAS PREPARED TO BUY FROM, AND SOMETIMES TO RELY ENTIRELY ON, THE OTHER. WE HOPE THAT OUR CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES COLLEAGUES WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE THIS VIEW AND THAT WE SHALL BE ABLE TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER IN VARIOUS NATO COMMITTEES. ALL THIS, OF COURSE, VERY RELEVANT TO ITEM XI OF TODAY'S AGENDA.

8. A FURTHER SUBJECT ARISING FROM THE OSLO MEETING WHICH WE DISCUSSED WAS THE GENERAL ONE OF THE FUTURE OF EUROPEAN DEFENCE AND THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE VARIOUS SUBGROUPS OF THE EUROGROUP. WE ENDED THIS DISCUSSION BY AGREEING IN PRINCIPLE TO SET UP A HIGH LEVEL REVIEW BODY TO CONSIDER, AGAINST THE LIKELY TRENDS IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF DEFENCE, WHAT MIGHT BE DONE TO INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GROUP AS A WHOLE, BEARING IN MIND THAT ONE OF OUR AIMS IS TO INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE EUROPEAN CONTRIBUTION TO COMMON DEFENCE. WE WOULD HOPE TO CONTINUE OUR DISCUSSION IN DECEMBER ON THE BASIS OF A REPORT FROM THIS BODY.

9. ONE FURTHER ITEM WHICH I THINK I SHOULD MENTION IS THE DISCUSSION WHICH WE HAD ABOUT PUBLICITY. WE HAVE FOR SOME TIME FELT THAT THERE WAS A NEED TO PUBLICISE EUROPEAN DEFENCE EFFORTS IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES, PARTICULARLY IN THE LATTER WHERE WE HAAVE FELT (AND I BELIEVE OUR AMERICAN FRIENDS AGREE) THAT THERE IS A WIDESPREAD LACK OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE NEED FOR NATO AND THE EUROPEAN CONTRIBUTION TO ALLIANCE DEFENCE. BOTH THE CONFIDENTIAL

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STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE DO A GREAT DEAL IN THIS SPHERE, BUT WE FELT--AND THE UNITED STATES MISSION HERE HAS BEEN BOTH HELPFUL AND ENCOURAGING--THAT THE RUROPEANS SHOULD SUPPLEMENT THIS ACTIVITY. QUITE A LOT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN THE LAST 6 MONTHS IN THE WAY OF BRIEFING JOURNALISTS AND CONGRESSMENT, ARRANGING FOR VISITS OF JOURNALIST, MAKING RADIO TAPES, WRITING ARTICLES AND SO ON AND WE REVIEWED WHAT HAD BEEN DONE SO FAR. THIS IS I THINK A WELL WORTHWHILE ACTIVITY AND I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE HELP WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED BOTH FROM THE US MISSION AND NATIS. END TEXT.

2. MENZIES (CANADIAN PERM REP) EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR FULL AND INFORMATIVE REPORT BY EUROGROUP CHAIRMAN AND ENDORSED DESIRE FOR ARMS COOPERATION BETWEEN BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC. HE SAID THAT CANADIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE HAD UNDER STUDY THE REPLACEMENT IN THE 1980'S TIME FRAME OF THREE DIFFERENT TYPES OF AIRCRAFT AND FACT THAT ALLIES DISCUSSING COMMON REPLACEMENT OF A F-104 TYPE AIRCRAFT, MAY LEAD TO CANADIAN PARTICIPATION AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME.

3. SECDEF REP (ELLSWORTH) SAID HE ALSO LIKED CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND ENDORSED RUROGROUP'S EFFORT TO ACHIEVE THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE

COOPERATION IN ARMS PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT BETWEEN COUNTRIES
OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE.

4. SYG LUNS UNDERLINED IMPORTANCE OF COMMON SOLUTIONS TO
PROCUREMENT QUESTIONS. RUMSFELD

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